

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-21 are now pending. Claim 1 is amended; claim 5 is cancelled; and claims 6-21 are added herein.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 5 has been cancelled, rendering the rejection thereof moot.

Claim 5 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, based on the recitation of "preferably" clauses, the parenthetical, and the phrase "admixed an easily". It is assumed that the Examiner intended to reject claim 1 on this basis. Therefore, claim 1 has been amended to delete the "preferably" clauses, the parenthetical and to insert the term "with" after the term "admixed." Based on these non-limiting amendments, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 clearly recites the invention.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Akerblom et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Akerblom is directed to a process for transfer pattern printing of a textile web, without using heat and using water soluble or water dispersible dyes. Col. 3, lines 20-27. As a pattern carrier, Akerblom teaches a web of paper or paper-like material, preferably coated paper with air permeability 0.1 to 3000 mm/Pa.s and a water absorption capacity corresponding to a Cobb-number lower than 50. The paper is preferably coated with carboxy methyl cellulose (CMC), an alginate or aqueous dispersion of polyethylene or polyacrylate. The paper web is printed with a pattern of one or more water soluble or dispersible dyestuffs, which are mixed with a readily soluble substance that acts as a thickening agent, and as carrier and temporary binder for the dye on the paper. Col. 3, lines 35-53.

Akerblom does not teach or suggest that the paper is coated with an aqueous dispersion of CMC containing a non-crystalline saccharide syrup. In particular, upon review

of Akerblom, Applicant could not find the alleged teaching of the paper being "coated with a carboxymethylcellulose (CMC), an alginate or an aqueous dispersion of saccharide syrup, starch, sorbitol and the like," much less a teaching or suggesting of coating the paper with an aqueous dispersion of CMC containing a non-crystalline saccharide syrup.

Akerblom does not teach or suggest the invention of claim 1. Therefore, the rejection of claim 1 in view of this reference should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Akerblom in view of JP 44-16135 (hereinafter "the Japanese Publication"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Akerblom does not teach or suggest the present invention for at least the reasons discussed above. In particular, Akerblom does not teach or suggest a pattern carrier where the paper is coated with an aqueous dispersion of CMC containing a non-crystalline saccharide syrup. In addition, the Japanese Publication cannot properly be combined with Akerblom in order overcome the deficiencies thereof.

As discussed above, Akerblom is directed to a process for transfer pattern printing to a moist textile web, without using heat and by using water soluble or water dispersible dyes. Although the Japanese Publication also relates to transfer paper, the transfer paper described therein is used in printing to porcelain. In addition, the Japanese Publication uses the coating in a different way. In particular, there is a lower coating of an aqueous solution of a cellulose derivative alone and an upper coating containing the same solution in which the chosen saccharide has been added. Based on at least these differences, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to look to the Japanese Publication in order to find coatings suitable for the process described in Akerblom.

Furthermore, the purpose described in the Japanese Publication for adding one or more mono- or oligosaccharides to the aqueous paste with which the transfer paper is coated is to obtain a coated paper that is more easily removed from porcelain after the pattern has been transferred thereto. See the first paragraph of the translation of the Japanese

Publication. The removability of coated paper from porcelain is clearly not relevant to the teachings of Akerblom, where the pattern carrier is applied to a moist textile web. The Japanese Publication does not teach any reason to utilize the mono- or oligosaccharides described therein in a coating layer for use in transfer pattern printing to a moist textile web. Therefore, for this additional reason, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to look to the Japanese Publication in order to find coatings suitable for the process described in Akerblom.

Akerblom does not teach or suggest the claimed pattern carrier. In addition, neither Akerblom nor the Japanese Publication provide any motivation to combine their teachings. Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of these references should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 6-21 have been added to further define the invention. Claims 6 and 7 depend from and are directed to the features described in preferably clauses of original claim 1. These claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

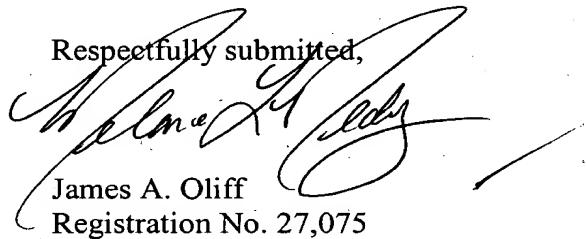
Claims 8-14 are similar to claims 1-4, 6 and 7. However, they do not recite most of the preamble of original claim 1. Like claim 1, claims 8-14 do recite or depend from a claim that recites that the paper is "coated with a aqueous dispersion of carboxymethylcellulose containing a non-crystalline saccharide syrup." Thus, these claims are patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1.

Claims 15-21 are directed to a method for transfer pattern printing a colour pattern to a moist textile web. Claims 15-20 depend from claim 8 and are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 8 is patentable. Although claim 21 does not recite all the features of claim 8, claim 21 clearly recites that the pattern carrier comprises paper coated with an aqueous dispersion of carboxymethylcellulose containing a non-crystalline saccharide syrup. Neither of the cited references teach or suggest using such a pattern carrier in the method recited in claim 21. Therefore, this claim is also allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are therefore respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix

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